

Getting Your Pet Ready for Dental Cleaning/Oral Surgery

At Animal Care Hospital, we try to make your pet's medical procedure as safe as possible. Please try to follow the instructions below. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us. We will do whatever we can to help you understand everything we do and why it is important.

Your pet must be current on all vaccination. Your pet(s) must also be free of intestinal parasites (such as worms) and external parasites (such as fleas and ticks). If not, your pet(s) will be treated accordingly for safety and hygienic reasons. These must be current before we can proceed with any surgery.

Blood work: Please try to bring your pet in a few days before their procedure after an 8-12 hour fast. Blood work is done to try to ensure that there are no hidden problems with your pet that may adversely affect your pet while under anesthesia. This information will be used by the doctor to try to prevent any unexpected complications with your pet's surgery.

The night before Oral Procedure: Please take away all food before 8 pm. Water is okay to be left out unless instructed otherwise by the doctor or technician.

The day of Oral Procedure: Please bring your pet in between at your scheduled check in time unless otherwise instructed. **Please administer any medications that are due that morning and bring the medications with you, unless instructed not to by the hospital staff.** You will need to fill out, review and sign a consent form stating the procedure your pet will be undergoing. Please be sure to leave a telephone number where you can be reached so that we can update you once your pet is in recovery. **If you (the Owner) will not be the person checking the pet in, please have the consent form filled out in advance with all the necessary information.** The check in process does take about 15 minutes.

Discharge: Your pet will be released as soon as he/she is eating and drinking well, and is able to walk and move with ease. With most surgeries, we will release your pet the same night. However, it is the doctor's final decision on when your pet goes home. A release date and time will be set after the procedure is complete so that a doctor or technician can go over release instructions appropriate for your pet. *If you (the Owner) will not be the person picking the pet up at discharge, please have payment arrangements made in advance.*

Estimates and Charges: Animal Care Hospital strongly encourages you to request an estimate for your pet's procedure. Dental cleanings and Oral surgeries tend to have a wide range of costs. The purpose of the ranges is to prepare for unexpected modifications to your pet's procedure. This is necessary as a complete oral examination is many times not possible with your pet until they are sedated. At that time a complete oral exam can be completed. Many times while performing the oral exam, teeth that require extraction are discovered.

Extraction charges vary based on the degree of damage and decay to both the tooth and its root. Several of the larger teeth in your pet's mouth may require the Veterinarian to surgically remove the tooth and suture the gum line which requires extended anesthesia and costs. Animal Care Hospital will do its best to notify you of these changes in cost as they arise. If you have further questions regarding the estimate or charges for your pet's procedure, please ask to speak with one of our technicians or doctors.